year. Out of this allocated amount, an amount of Rs. 19.19 crore has been released for this purpose to DAVP.

As per the Ministry of I&B letter No. 1/52/2000-MUC dated 28.01.2003, DAVP. is the official authorized agency for placing video spots in satellite channels on behalf of all Government Ministries/Departments. Accordingly, the DAVP outlined a media plan for the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for placing spots in the satellite channels.

Fruit production in Himachal Pradesh

† *113. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding fruit production in the entire country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is plenty of production of apple, khubani, peach, plum, almond, grapes and chilgoja in the upper region and mango, lemon, galgal (kind of lemon) pear, etc. in lower region of Himachal Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is also a fact that food processsing industries are insufficient in comparison to fruit production;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by Goverment to promote food processing industries in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (g) The Total fruit production of the country is estimated at 49.282 million metric tomes while Himachal Pradesh produces around 6.92 lakh metric tonnes of fruits, of which apple production is 5.27 lakh metric tonnes. The State is having 83 fruit processing units with a capacity to process 80,500 metric tonnes. Details of crop-wise fruit production in India and Himachal Pradesh and List of food processing units in Himachal Pradesh are given in the enclosed Statement I and II (See below).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Goverment of India has been implementing a Centrally sponsored scheme "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal" in the State of Himachal Pradesh since 2003-04 with a X Plan outlay of Rs.80 crores to address all the issues related to development of Horticulture including processing of horticultural produce. Under Mini Mission -IV of Technology Mission, assistance @ 50% of the project cost or up to Rs.4.00 crores is provided for establishment of processing industries in the State. In addition, under the plan schemes of Ministry of Food Processing Industries, assistance @ 25% of the plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs.50 lakhs in General Areas and 33.33% upto Rs.75 lakhs in difficult areas is provided to entrepreneures for establishment/modernization of Food Processing Industries.

Statement-I

Table 1. *All India Fruit Production*

Crop	Production (in Lakh Mts.)
Apple	15.22
Banana	122.09
"Citrus	58.84
Grape	14.72
Guava	18.39
Litchi	4.78
Mango	118.74
Papaya	22.44
Pineapple	12.34
Pomegranate	7.08
Sapota	9.45
Others	88.70
TOTAL:	492.82

Table 2. *Fruit Production in Himachal Pradesh*

Crop	Production (MTs.)
A. Upper Region	
Apple	527601
Pears	29590
Plum	19717
Peach	6564
Apricot	2415
Cherry	415
Persimon	164
Kiwi	102
Strawberry	425
Almond	1155
Walnut	3099
Picanut	94
Olive	9
B. Lower Region	
Orange	13702
Malta	4391
Kagzi Lime	5730
Galgal	3832
Other Citrus fruits	899
Guava	3376
Litchi	3556
Mango	59739
Papaya	2499
Laquate	40
Other Sub-tropical fruits	2897
TOTAL:	692011

Statement-II

Table 3. *Food Processing units in Himachal Pradesh*

Sector	Noof units	Capacity (MT)
1. Himachal Pradesh Horticulture	3	26000
Produce Marketing and Processing	9	500
Corporation (HPMC)	7	600
2. Departmental Units	64	53400
3. Cooperative Sector		
4. Joint/Private Sector		
TOTAL:	83	80500

Legislation to ban non-iodised salt

*114. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDYSHRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's proposed ban on non-iodised salt could not be notified since many objections have been received by his Ministry;

(b) the details of objections received from the manufacturers of non-iodised salt in the country;

(c) whether Government would think of bringing legalization for compulsory double fortification of common salt with iodine and iron;

(d) whether his Ministry approached the National Institute of Health, Hyderabad in connection with iodised salt; and

(e) if so, the suggestions made by the institute?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) A notification GSR 670(E) has been published on 17.11.2005, amending PFA Rules, 1955, restricting the sale of non-iodized salt for direct human consumption unless the same is iodized. However, non-iodized salt may be sold for iodization, iron fortification, animal use, preservation, manufacturing medicines and industrial use under proper label declaration.